



Michael Edward "Mike" Butler, age 72, resident of Lakeland, Tennessee and husband of Hazel Spain Butler, departed this life Sunday morning, November 18, 2018 at St. Francis Hospital in Bartlett.

Mike was born October 22, 1946 in Memphis, Tennessee, the son of Olin Bryce Butler and Novalyn Lancaster Butler. He won the National Marble Championship in 1958 at 12 years old. Mike played for Coach Bill Todd at Memphis Kingsbury High School. In 102 games, he set the then Shelby Metro Area Record by scoring 1,976 points. He played college basketball at Memphis State University from 1965 until 1968 where he still holds the highest free throw percentage and consecutive free throws made in a row. He was selected in the 1968 NBA draft by the San Diego Rockets and in the 1972 American Basketball Association (ABA) Draft by the San Diego Conquistadors. He played four seasons in the ABA with the New Orleans Buccaneers and the Utah Stars, where he won the ABA National Championship in 1971. He was also inducted into the Memphis Basketball Hall of Fame.

Mike Butler and Hazel Somogyi married June 20, 1998. He was employed as a Director of Transportation for many years before his retirement. He attended Highland Heights Presbyterian Church in Cordova and loved reading his Bible, fishing, playing his guitar, golfing, basketball, listening to music, dancing and special times with his family.

Mr. Butler is survived by his wife, Hazel Spain Butler of Lakeland, TN; his daughter, Michelle Butler Himes (Barry) of Jackson, TN; his stepdaughter, Gwynne Hagan (Jim) of Germantown, TN; two stepsons, Rich Somogyi of Germantown, TN, Chris Somogyi (Ashley) of Germantown, TN; and eight grandchildren, Gavin Knight, Grayson Knight, Harrison Hagan, Garrett Hagan, Catelyn Somogyi, Caroline Somogyi, Sydney Somogyi and Clayton Somogyi.

The family requests that memorials be directed to Highland Heights Presbyterian Church, 2855 Morning Sun Road, Cordova, TN 38016.

Condolences may be left on our online guestbook at www.PeeblesFuneralHome.com. In Memory Of

Michael Edward "Mike" Butler

Entered This Life
October 22, 1946

Departed This Life
November 18, 2018

Memorial Service

1 P.M. Friday ~ November 23, 2018 Peebles West Funeral Chapel Oakland, Tennessee

Officiating Minister

Tim Foster

Highland Heights Presbyterian Church

Cordova, Tennessee

Song Selections
How Great Thou Art
Amazing Grace
In This Very Room

Final Resting Place
Rehobeth Cemetery
Somerville, Tennessee

Pallbearers

Barry Himes, Rich Somogyi, Chris Somogyi, Jim Hagan, Gavin Knight and Grayson Knight